



# THE Living Memory Association NEWSLETTER

## Princes Street



The amazing facade of the Palace Cinema - just one of the cinemas that used to exist on Princes Street.

Photo taken in 1955 and courtesy of SG Jackman at Edinburgh Collected.

In 1912 the Princes Cinema opened at 131 Princes Street. It closed in 1935 and became the Monseigneur News Theatre specialising in British Movietone and Pathe newsreels. In 1963 it underwent refurbishment and reopened as The Jacey showing independent and art house films. It also developed a reputation for X-rated films.

Commissioned in 1903, it was the first of its kind in the world. John McHattie, the City's park superintendent at the time, and Edinburgh clockmakers James Ritchie and Son created the floral clock by installing a clock mechanism in the base of the Allan Ramsay Monument. 35,000 plants are used in the design. The clock was decorated to celebrate the centenary of the Edinburgh Royal Choral Union in 1958.





Couple Standing In East Princes Street Gardens, 1920s.

Woolworths at the East End of Princes Street. The photo was taken in 1957. The store didn't always have the flowers and flags displayed. This was for a special visit from the Queen to the city.



Princes Street is part of the New Town plan designed by James Craig in 1767. It took its name from the sons of King George III. In stark contrast to today, it started out as a residential street with the first inhabitants moving in during the 1770s.



A summer's day in Princes Street Gardens in the fifties.

My Great Aunt Barbara and her friends smile at the camera whilst out for a walk in Princes Street Gardens. This photo was taken six days before Britain entered the Second World War which would see my aunt having to move to London for war work. Photo courtesy of Edinburgh Collected. Photo contributed by TheLibrarian



Princes Street Gardens 29th August 1939.



The West End of Princes Street. Binns on the corner. The photo dates to the fifties.

Tram at the East End of Princes Street in 1956. The trams stopped running in 1956.





Princes Street not long after the lifting of the tram lines in 1956.



On the day of the opening of the new Scottish Parliament, Princes Street was closed to traffic.



Do you have memories, stories, or photos you'd like to share?

Please get in touch:

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The famous Christmas tree at Jenners in 2015. Photo courtesy of Edinburgh Collected and Graeme Pow.



The Wee Museum of Memory

10.30am – 4pm Mon – Fri

11am – 4pm Sat/Sun

Ocean Terminal next to Britannia

We are Open to visitors!

[www.livingmemory.org.uk](http://www.livingmemory.org.uk)